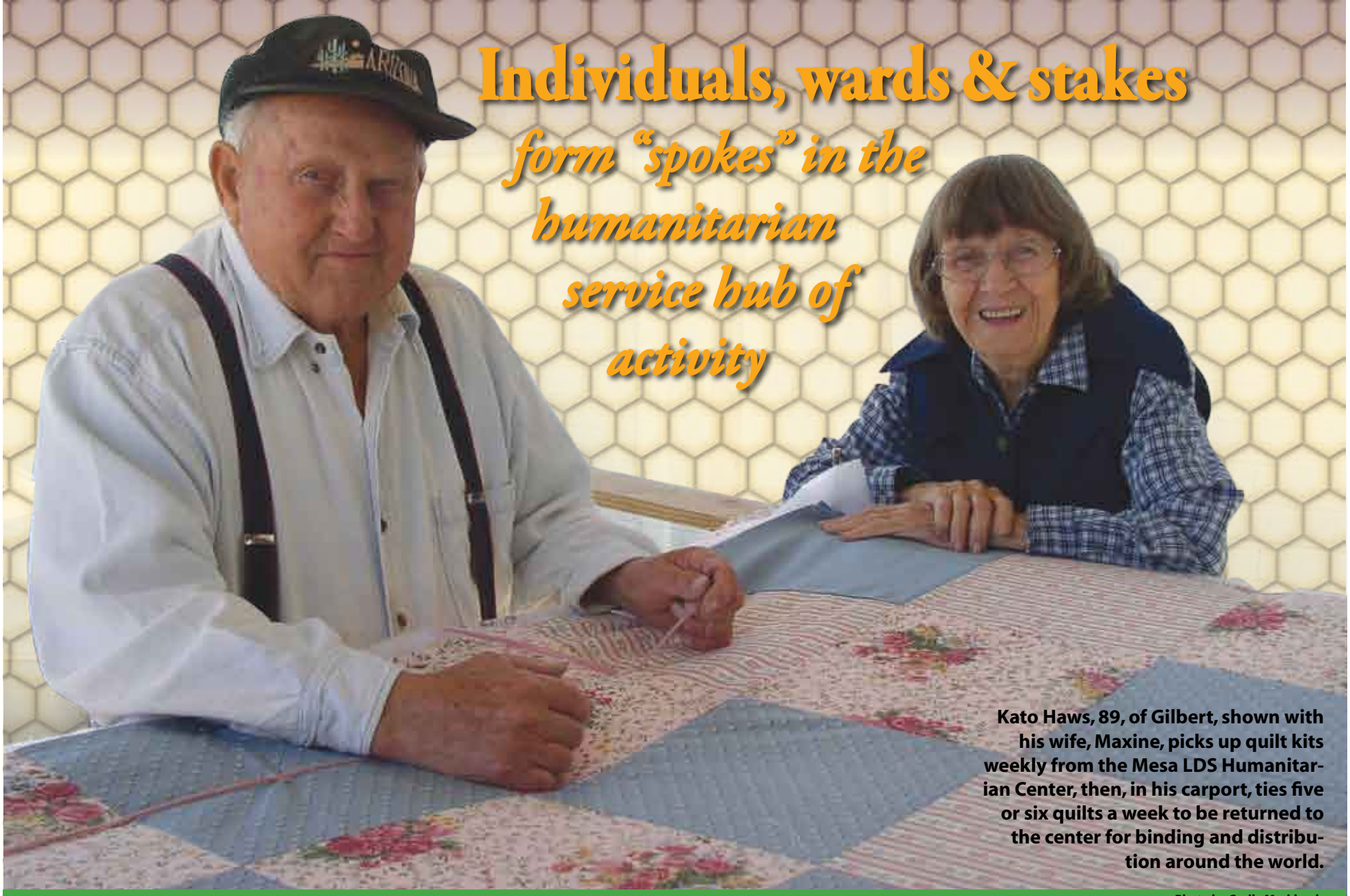
Section B

The Beehive

May 2 — July 9, 2007 • www.ArizonaBeehive.com

Individuals, wards & stakes

form "spokes" in the humanitarian service hub of activity



Kato Haws, 89, of Gilbert, shown with his wife, Maxine, picks up quilt kits weekly from the Mesa LDS Humanitarian Center, then, in his carport, ties five or six quilts a week to be returned to the center for binding and distribution around the world.

Photo by Cecily Markland

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

The Mesa LDS Humanitarian Center is a hub of activity, with "spokes" that reach out in countless directions as individuals, wards and stakes contribute in various ways.

Some, like Kato and Maxine Haws, members of the Cullumber Ward in the Gilbert Stake, have a regular system of service and contribution. For the past five years they have stopped at the Humanitarian Center nearly every Tuesday to pick up quilt kits, which include a pieced top, backing, yarn and batting. Brother Haws, who turns 89 in May, puts the quilts up in his carport and ties approximately five quilts a week, returning them to the center to be bound.

"I don't like to just sit around," says Brother Haws. "This keeps me out of trouble," he laughs.

Brother and Sister Haws, who have 10 children, 53 grandchildren and 52 great grandchildren, have a long history of service in the Church. Their ongoing humanitarian service began many years ago when Maxine assisted the Humanitarian Director at Deseret Industries.

"We pray for the hungry, the sick and the tired, but we have to do something about helping them," Sister Haws says.

Emerson and Verla Jones, members of the Black Canyon Ward in the Glendale Stake, also make regular trips to the Humanitarian Center. Each time they visit they drop off items stitched by Sister Jones along with five or six large boxes of wooden cars and toys made by Brother Jones.

Brother Jones makes about 250 cars a month, and he has donated over 15,000 to the center.

Many ward and stake groups also coordinate their efforts with the Humanitarian Center.

The Young Women from the Neely Ward in the Gilbert Stapley Stake recently helped to make the 12-inch cloth dolls used by doctors to help prepare children for surgery.

"The doctors draw on the dolls to show the children exactly what they will be doing," explains Beverly Lowe of the Neely Ward. For the past 16 years Sister Lowe has worked in the doll room at the center. Banner Desert Children's Hospital needs 60 of the dolls each quarter, and "The other hospitals need them too," Sister Lowe says.

"I showed them this project and brought the materials home," Sister Lowe shares. "We had nine girls and four leaders and got 20 done and stuffed."

In the Gilbert Val Vista Stake, kits are picked up from the center, then the quilts are tied at regularly scheduled humanitarian service nights. The stake also compiles newborn kits and hygiene kits, knit hats on looms and complete ABC books and school bags. According to stake humanitarian leader Jane Porter, "Every thread that's worked on is a blessing to someone's life."

To learn how your ward, stake, or family can help, visit the Mesa LDS Humanitarian Center at 830 E. 2nd Street (Tuesday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) or call (480) 835-5520. For additional ideas, and even patterns, visit the Church's official Web site at http://www.providentliving.org/

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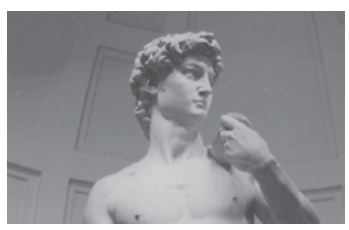

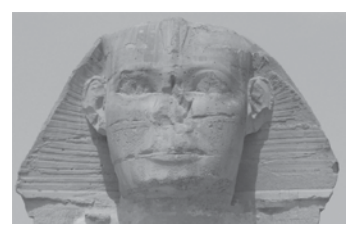

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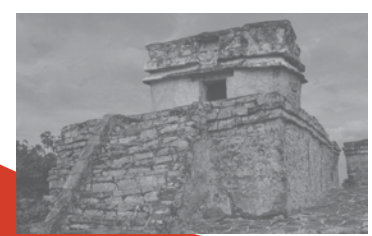

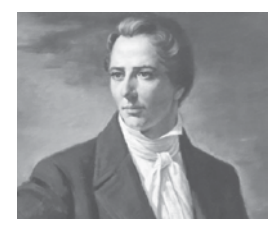

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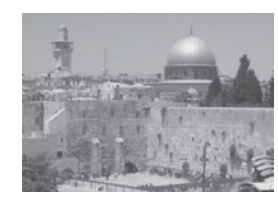

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Tempe West Stake involves all in **TRAIL *of* FAITH**

By Audra Pettit
The Beehive

When the Tempe West Stake held a pioneer trek eight years ago and a second trek four years ago, the events were for the youth in the stake.

This year, as the 14- to 18-year-olds prepared to take part in the stake's third pioneer trek, they learned about an added component, one that would not only enrich the event for the youth, but would involve all members of the stake as well.

In September 2006, both the youth who would walk the trail in March 2007 and all other members of the stake were encouraged to take part by earning the Trail of Faith Achievement Award.

Pamphlets distributed to the stake members described five areas of achievement, explaining that to earn the Trail of Faith Achievement Award would require completion of five activities under the "Remembering the Pioneers" category, and three activities in the areas of "Family History," "Service," "Temples and Spiritual," and "Physical Fitness."

Stake Young Women's President Marian McFarlane, who says the program had been done in her mother's stake in Utah, presented the idea to the Tempe West Stake Presidency.

"I loved the idea of bringing the trek, and family history, to all members of our stake, even if they did not attend the trek," she says. "I also thought it was a good way to help the younger youth, especially those 12- and 13-year-old young men and women, get excited for their chance to go on a trek,"

John Egbert, first counselor in the Tempe West Stake Presidency, agrees.

"We thought it would be a way to let whole families participate and feel a part of the trek," he says.

Families throughout the stake willingly committed the time and energy to complete the requirements.

One family cleared weeds and debris from gravesites at a nearby cemetery. Another learned more about family history by reading from their ancestors' journals.

To help their Young Men and Young Women complete requirements toward the award, many of the wards held youth activities, such as the overnight trip for the Ahwautukee 1st Ward Young Women.

Young Women's President Sallee Nielson shares, "We had a wonderful weekend up in Pinetop hiking, doing crafts, watching "Legacy," visiting the James Flake Home, and the Snowflake Temple. The girls and leaders really bonded and felt a sense of purpose to the activities."

Individuals and families who completed the required activities received a certificate and a pioneer trek key chain at a culminating fireside in April.

According to Sister McFarlane, "Everyone who participated [in the Trail of Faith program] came away learning something new and gaining a greater appreciation for those who came before them. We all have a great legacy and it is wonderful to find out about our families."

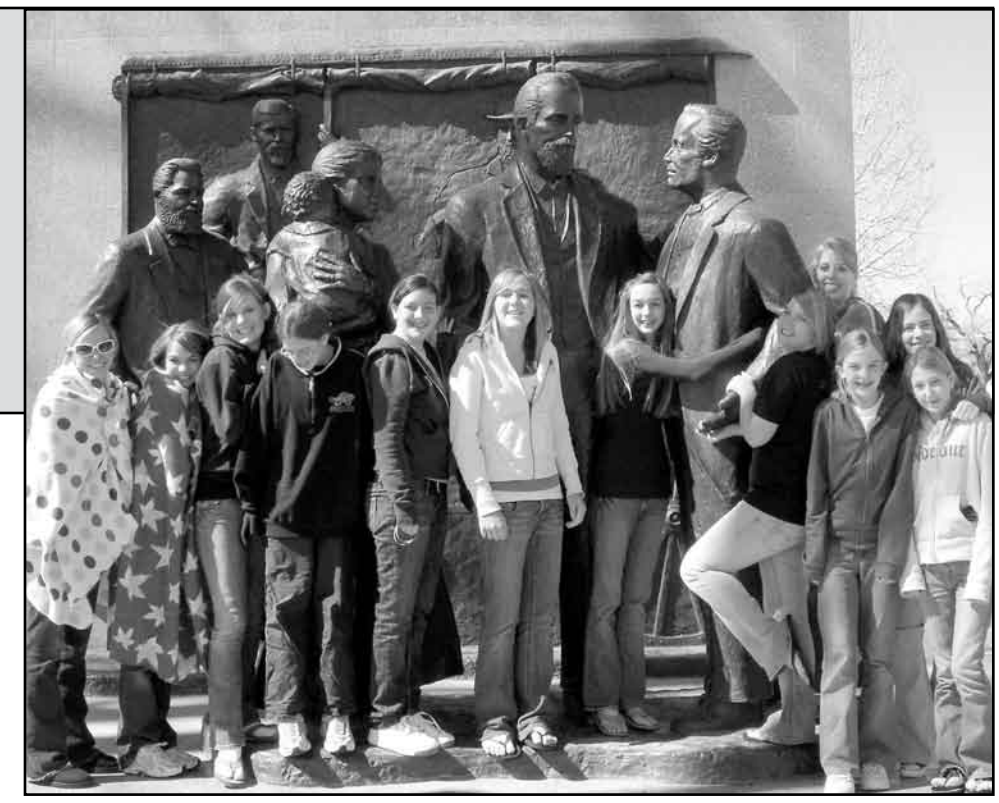

Photo by Trisha Coffman

Participating in the Tempe West Stake's Trail of Faith Achievement program, the Young Women of the Ahwatukee 1st Ward visited the Snowflake Temple and other historic sites to fulfill requirements toward earning the award.

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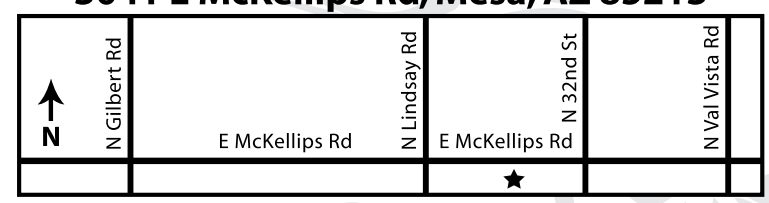

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NFL player suits up for Easter Pageant

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Photo by Richard Webb

Though more familiar with a different kind of helmet and uniform, Taitusi "Duece" Lutui, the 6'4", 350-pound Arizona Cardinals' starting offensive guard, was happy to take on the role of a Roman soldier and to share his testimony of Christ by participating in this year's Arizona Easter Pageant.

In the last few weeks before the Arizona Cardinals' preseason football camp, starting offensive guard Taitusi "Duece" Lutui wore a much different uniform and performed on a much different playing field as the 6'4", 350-pound NFL player took on the role of a "Roman Soldier" in this year's Arizona Easter Pageant.

"I've always wanted to be a Roman soldier," says Lutui, who well remembers attending the pageant as a child growing up in Mesa.

Bedecked in a toga, with a leather chest piece and muscle armor set, belt and plumed helmet, Lutui laughs, "It reminds me of my alma mater, USC. I feel like a Trojan."

Lutui, who signed a four-year contract with the Cardinals last July, starred on the Mesa High School football team before playing at MCC and Snow College and then transferring to USC, where he started all 13 games his junior year. During his college football career Lutui blocked for quarterback Matt Leinhart and assisted the team to go undefeated and to win the National Championship. Lutui started every game his senior year and was named USC's Offensive Lineman of the Year.

Lutui was excited to be drafted by the Cardinals and to have the opportunity to return to Arizona and to play with Matt Leinhart.

Though he feels more comfortable on the gridiron than on the 9,600 square-foot Easter pageant stage, he relished his acting debut and the opportunity to participate.

According to pageant director Nanci Wudel, Lutui's application came in late, and pageant officials were about to reblock the scenes to make do with eight soldiers this year.

"We had 800 people apply, but we only could find eight Roman soldiers because they have to be of a certain size, and they have to be very, very nice because children look up to them," says Sister Wudel

She says Lutui was perfect for the role.

"I'm so impressed with his humble nature. He's very obedient and focused. All of the positive skills he has learned from football have been wonderful for the Easter pageant," she says.

The 23-year-old Tonga-born Lutui, who now lives in Ahwatukee Foothills with his wife, Pua, and two children, says, "This play is more a sacred thing for me than having fun."

"I thought it was a good opportunity to do some missionary work," he adds.

Indeed, Lutui told practically everyone he came in contact with, "You ought to go see this pageant;" and his participation drew the attention of the print

Continued on pg. B7

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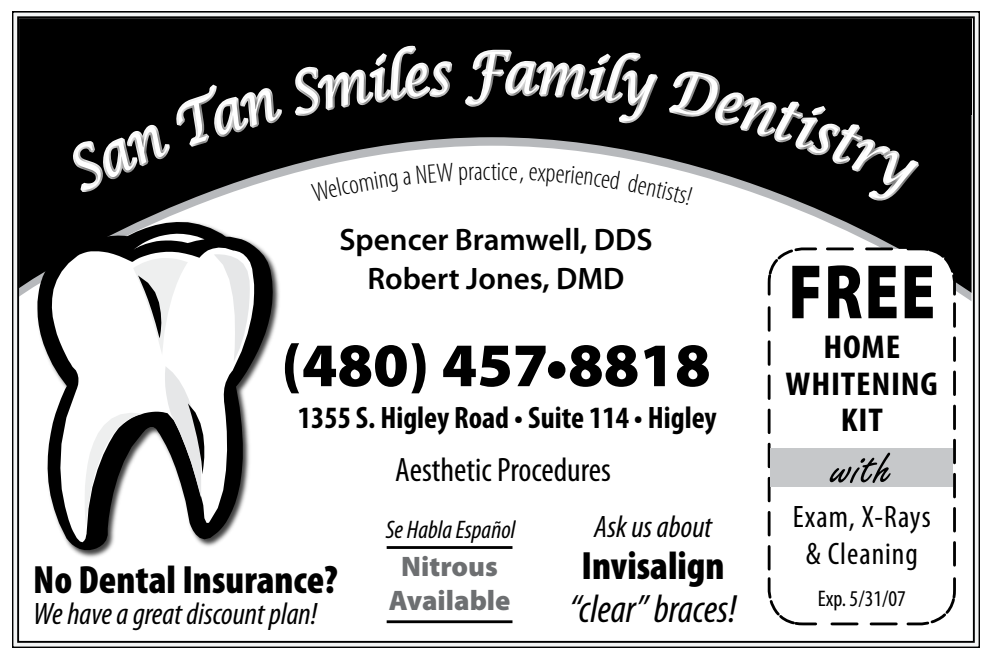

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NFL Player Suits Up
Continued from pg. B6

media as well as every television station in Phoenix.

Such interest in his Church membership is nothing new for Lutui. He explains that, in his football career, people he meets often question his beliefs as a member of the Church.

"There are constant questions. As a member of the Church, you're a standout and are different than many others," he says.

He found this to be particularly true when living in Southern California in the middle of what he calls, "ghetto-gang warfare."

"It was so worldly over there; you just had to stay close to the Lord. I really built my testimony over there," Lutui says.

Lutui says he firmly believes the message of the Easter Pageant—"that there is a living God and his Son Jesus Christ; that he lives and people can be saved by and through Him and through the atonement"—and he looks for opportunities to share that testimony whenever he can.

Through participating in the pageant, his hope is that others will come to understand that message as well.

"I just wanted to bear witness of Jesus Christ; that He lives," Lutui says. "If more people, more of us, can bear record of that and have faith in Him, this world would be such a better place."

YSA volunteers HELP city of Mesa with clean-up

By Jill B. Adair
The Beehive

Nearly one hundred Young Single Adult volunteers from the Mesa, Mesa South, Kimball, Kimball East and Pueblo stakes recently helped the City of Mesa with two extensive neighborhood clean-up projects.

The biggest project was the cleanup of a large vacant lot, where volunteers removed a sizeable amount of debris, painted over graffiti and cut down overgrown vegetation.

Volunteers also helped wash windows and clean up the building that houses CARE Partnership, a non-profit community service organization.

The service day was touted by the city as the first in its Building Strong Neighborhoods Initiative, a movement which focuses on preserving and strengthening neighborhoods as its primary goal.

Kelly Moore of the Mesa South Stake is a member of the five-stake YSA committee. She said the committee had decided it was time to do service with their group. The group's adult advisors had heard about the city's program to strengthen the community and the committee liked the idea of getting involved.

"We put on quarterly activities for the YSAs, but we realized that we hadn't done a service in a long time," Kelly said. "When we heard about this one, we thought it would be neat for our community."

The vacant lot targeted by the city was actually in the Mesa Stake's boundaries. City officials said residents in the area had expressed concerns about it as a safety hazard and were eager to see it cleaned up. Sister Moore said she and others were surprised at how bad it was.

"There was a lot of broken glass and trash; this was a dangerous environment," she said, "especially for the kids who play around there."

The group worked hard for four hours, hauling away mounds of debris and weeds, and transforming the lot into a clean, safe area.

"It was a lot of work, but a lot of fun," Kelly said.

Some neighbors saw what the youth were doing and offered to help. Sister missionaries serving in the area also got involved.

"It was good to serve and see how much it benefited them," Kelly added. "We left it a lot better than we found it."

Gevan Rudd, high councilor in the Kimball Stake and YSA advisor, said the young adults did a great job in working together and serving others.

"I think if made them feel that they can contribute to our community," he said. "What they did actually made Mesa a better place to live."

City officials were impressed with the work that was done and how quickly it was accomplished, and several local television news stations carried reports of the project.

The news reports explained the city is currently using a variety of services to focus on issues that are considered priorities by Mesa residents. The top priorities—according to a recent door-to-door survey of residents—are public safety, traffic and neighborhood beautification.

The city's goal is to conduct one neighborhood project in each City Council District during the next 12 months and city officials are looking for volunteers to help with future projects.

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Wood Badge MANIA erupts in Gilbert stake

The Gilbert Stake accomplished an impressive milestone toward their goal of having 97 Scout leaders finish the Wood Badge training, as 41 completed their "tickets" and received Wood Badge certificates in February.

Photo by Blake Smith

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By Connie Wolfe
The Beehive

The Gilbert Stake recently reached a major milestone toward their ultimate goal of having 97 leaders complete Wood Badge, the premier training that helps leaders learn the skills and methods of Scouting.

Kevin Ballard, second counselor in the Gilbert Stake Presidency, says the push began after stake leaders participated in courses at the Philmont Training Center in New Mexico.

"I think attending Philmont over a year ago had a great deal to do with John Lewis, Stake President, and Brother (Duane) Hatch, Young Men's President, gaining the vision of getting all our Scouting leaders—from Cubs to Ventures—trained in all aspects of Scouting. They set their goal at 97 leaders to be trained."

Thirty-four leaders went to Wood Badge in February 2006 and another 16 attended in June 2006. Camping out for a week, the leaders cooked their own meals and practiced Scout skills. They spent 16-hour days working together at organizing, accomplishing tasks and meeting challenges, and developing enthusiasm and team spirit.

Ron Knight, an experienced Scout leader from the Windrift Ward, says, "I thought Wood Badge was more for new Scouters. When I got there I realized there are different issues now and we need to be trained to know the guidelines and how to motivate the boys."

He adds, at the training, "They turn you into a boy! They set you up as patrols and troops, putting you on the same level as the boys."

At the same time, trainees put forth serious effort, including entering into a contract with a member of the staff. Known as "The Ticket," the contract is a commitment to put into practice the leadership skills taught at Wood Badge.

"The Ticket" includes a list of personal values, a description of the individual's vision of success and a mission composed of five significant goals. These goals must be specific, measurable, relevant and timely; and the individual must attain them within 18 months for their training to be considered complete.

After attending Wood Badge, Stake Clerk Gary Brown, stated, "I've wanted to go for some time over the years. Now I'm doing the ticket;" which, in his case meant expanding his role of merit badge counselor and now serving on the Eagle Scout Board of

Continued on pg. B9

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Safford family walks their way to greater unity

By Tina Scott
The Beehive

The Kent and Heidi Decker family, members of the Safford 1st Ward in the Safford Stake, are walking their way to family unity. The Deckers make hiking and walking together a family activity. They also participate in the Safford School District-sponsored walking program as well.

In fact, for the past two years 12-year-old Mike Decker has been the top participant in the Safford School District's "Walking the Dogs" program. Named after the school district's mascot, the Bulldog, the program encourages students, (referred to as the "dogs"), along with their parents and teachers to become more physically fit.

Participants receive a neck chain and are awarded plastic numbers and markers for every mile they walk. Mike consistently out walks other students from both elementary schools in the district.

Yet, Mike doesn't do it alone. He also helps his 10-year-old brother, Nathan, to excel in the program.

Nathan has cerebral palsy and is confined to a wheelchair, so Mike pushes him around the quarter-mile field.

"It's one of my favorite things to do," says Mike. "It's fun and it makes me happy."

Nathan enjoys going fast in his wheelchair, so Mike often runs him around the field instead of walking.

Their mom goes along to help the boys keep "score."

"Every time the kids walk around the field, they get a tally for a quarter mile," Heidi explains. "I go every day and mark their cards and walk with them."

Mike registers at least 2 ½ miles a day on the days he pushes Nathan. He stretches that to 3½ miles or more on the days he walks solo.

Last year, Mike earned a large trophy for walking 228 miles; and he helped Nathan earn a smaller one for tallying 115 miles. Mike's personal goal for this year is 500 miles, and he hopes to walk 200 of those while pushing Nathan.

"This year I'm going to get Nathan the bigger trophy. You can only get the large one if you've run 200 miles or more," Mike explains.

Mike also has a goal to try out for the middle school track team. His father, Kent, ran track in high school and Mike plans to follow in his dad's footsteps.

As good friends, Mike and Nathan do almost everything together; they play video games, watch television and read books. They also are enjoying getting to know a new member of their family. Justin, 15, joined the Decker family as a foster child last March and has recently been sealed to the rest of the family. Although too old to participate in the "Walking the Dogs" program, Justin joins the Deckers in other family outings.

"They almost walked me into the ground at first," Justin says, grinning.

He admits he enjoys the family hikes and traveling with the family to find good hiking spots for their vacations.

"One of our favorites is Zion National Park," explains Heidi. "We put Nathan in a backpack and go."

Wood Badge Mania Erupts
Continued from pg. B8

Review.

Lorna Hale, Cub Scout Leader in the Windrift Ward, says, "Participating in Wood Badge has been very beneficial in every aspect of my life. It's helped me in my business, my personal relationships and my Scouting life. I have been asked to be a guide at the October 2007 Wood Badge camp at R-C in Payson."

Of the 50 who participated in the two Wood Badge training sessions, 41 completed their tickets in time to receive their Wood Badge certificates at a special recognition ceremony on February 11.

General Young Men's President Dean Burgess spoke at the ceremony and commended the Gilbert Stake for having one of the largest numbers of participants in a presentation ceremony for any single stake.

Yet, Gilbert Stake isn't finished yet. With their eye on their ultimate goal, they have three more Wood Badge training courses planned for 2007.

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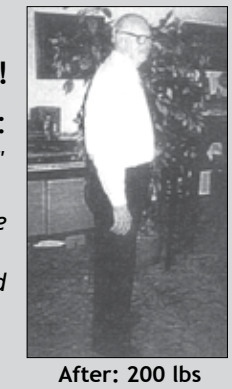

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NEW
East Valley Hospital to be led by Arizona
NEWCOMER

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Wilson Camera & Portrait Studio

Valley newcomer, Kelly Adams, will be at the helm as CEO when the new Mountain Vista Medical Center opens in East Mesa in June.

Both Mountain Vista Medical Center and the man who will head it up are new additions to the East Valley, and both already are casting remarkable shadows of influence, even before the new, 171-bed hospital opens in June.

Part of IASIS Healthcare, the hospital at Crismon Road and Southern Avenue in East Mesa, will offer a full range of health care services, including a large emergency department with a fast-track area for minor cases, a comprehensive heart program, a maternity unit with spacious labor and delivery rooms for new mothers and their babies, and the most advanced diagnostic imaging equipment in use today.

CEO of the new facility will be Arizona newcomer, Kelly H. Adams, who is a member of the Higley Groves Ward in the Gilbert Highland Stake.

Adams moved to the East Valley from the Seattle area and brings to his new position more than 25 years of executive health care experience. A graduate of Brigham Young University, he earned a Master's Degree at Tennessee State University and worked as a hospital administrator in Seattle and recently served as interim CEO of another IASIS hospital in St. Petersburg, Florida.

An experienced marathon runner, Adams says he may feel a little like a duck out of water as he considers running on desert trails, rather than the rain-soaked roads of the Northwest. Yet, other than that minor adjustment, he says the move has been "wonderful" for him and his wife, Lynann, and the two of their four children still living at home.

"The move to Arizona has been good for my family. My wife and kids settled right in and they really like it here. We're pleased with the schools, and so far the weather has been great. Although they tell me I won't be run-

Continued on pg. B11

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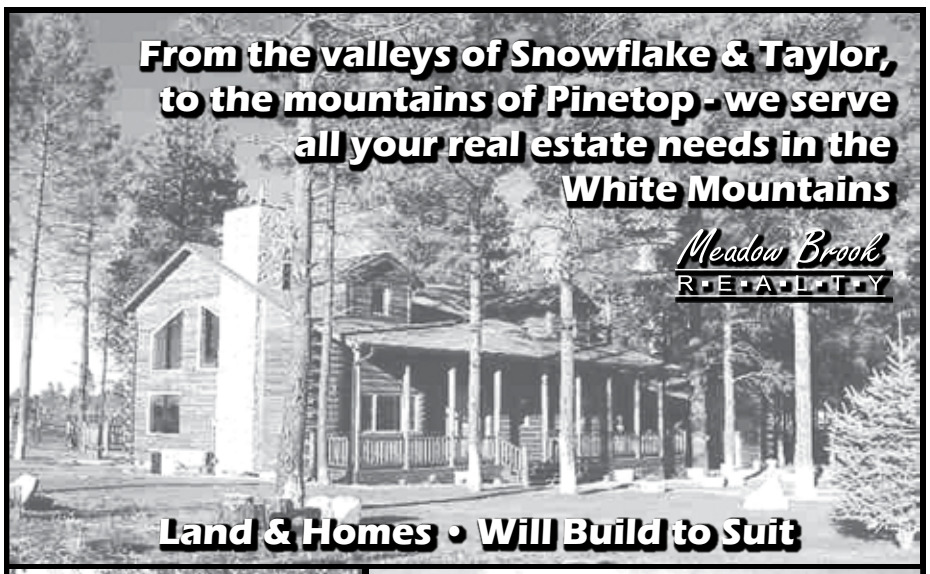

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New East Valley Hospital
Continued from pg. B10

ning in any marathons next June," laughs Adams.

He adds that, whether or not he hangs up his running shoes for the summer, running will continue to form a pattern for his life.

"I look at running the same way I approach everything that's important in my life –set good goals, make progress every day, and remember the journey is as important as the final destination," he says.

In looking at the destination of the projected June opening of Mountain Vista Medical Center, Adams says, "Every day we make progress – not only in building the hospital structure, which is going to be beautiful, but also in building our team."

He says the hospital will offer such amenities as valet parking, room service on demand, all private patient rooms with flat screen TVs and comfortable waiting areas for families. There will be state-of-the-art clinical information technology, like electronic medical records, digital X-rays, and barcode scanning systems to ensure safety in dispensing medicine in the hospital.

"We're definitely going to be high-tech," says Adams. "We'll have all the tools doctors need to diagnose a patient's medical condition and to provide excellent treatment options."

Yet, he adds, the real key to success will have more to do with "touch," than with technology.

"We're going to be high-touch, too," Adams says. "By that, I mean we will focus on providing a comfortable patient experience and great customer service."

"The foundation of any great hospital is its people," he explains, noting they are committed to hiring professionals "who are experienced, skilled, and who share our commitment to being a friendly, caring hospital. I'm very happy to say we're finding those people right in our own community."

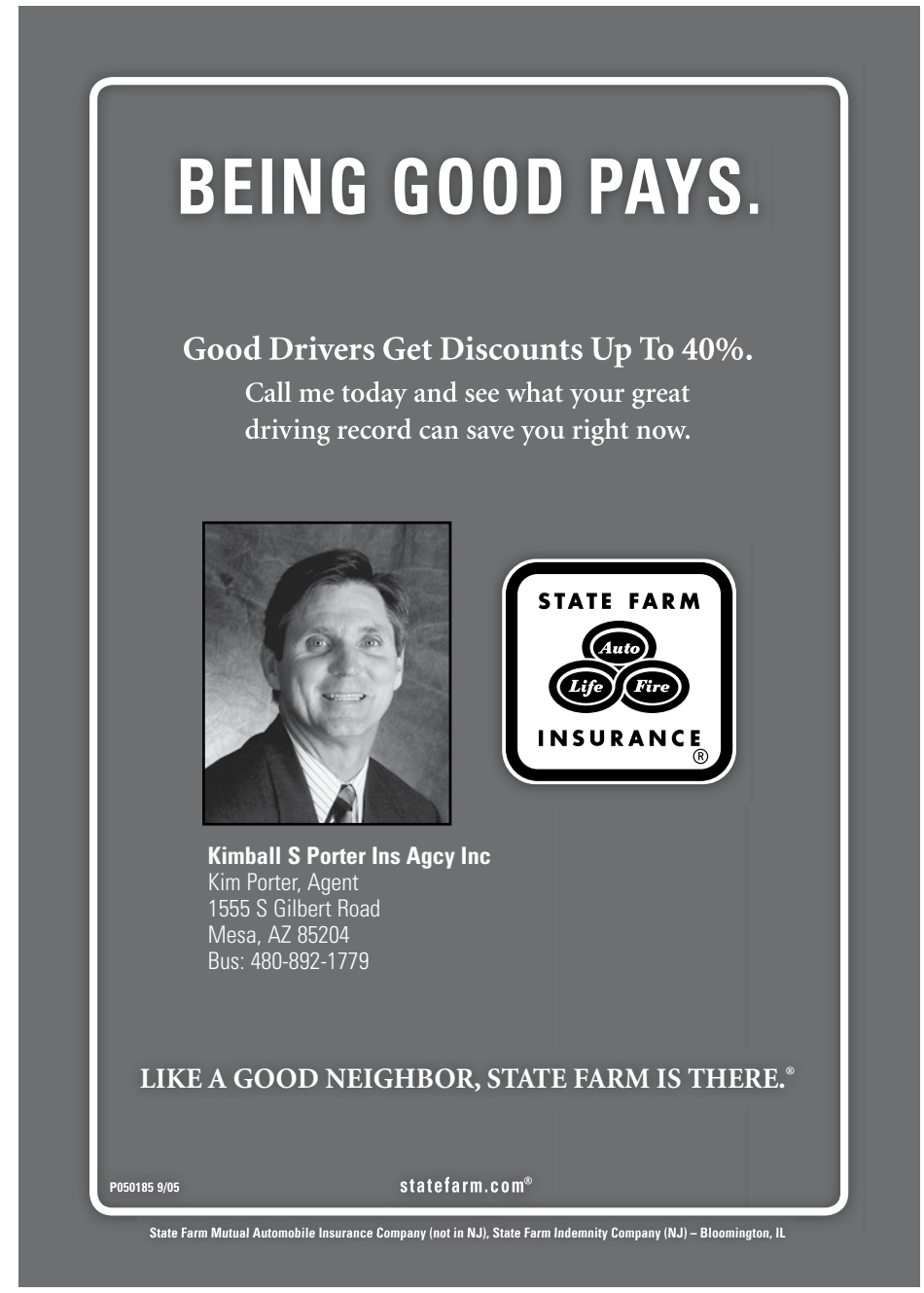
While Mountain Vista will "always be looking for staff," in anticipation of the opening, "We've had more applications than we have positions," Adams says.

"I'm thrilled with what we're building at Mountain Vista and most encouraged by the community's anticipation of this new hospital and the physicians and staff we are attracting," he says. "Our growing Mountain Vista Medical family can't wait to open its doors to its new neighbors."

Excited about the future of the hospital, Adams is also happy to have opportunities to serve in the community and in his ward.

Having been a bishop, elder's quorum president and twice as high councilor in the past, he says he and his wife have now been extended a "reward call."

"We've been called to the nursery," he says.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Farmers Insurance Group offers **excellent** career opportunity

Photo by John Power

Cort Giles, shown with other members of the team at the Farmers Insurance Group agency in East Mesa, lauds the benefits of becoming an agent and encourages others to consider working for Farmers Insurance Group. Shown (back, l to r) are Sam Consaoazio, Noel Johnson, Cort Giles, (front l to r) Dawn French and Timothy Ahern.

By Cecily Markland
The Beehive

Three years ago Cort Giles saw enough good things about Farmers Insurance Group that he chose a career as a Farmers Insurance agent.

Then, after seeing firsthand the benefits of such a career, Cort began helping to recruit others to be agents.

"There are some definite advantages to being an agent," says Cort. "You work really hard for the first three to five years; yet, even then, you have some time for yourself because you're in business for yourself."

"You can set your schedule to get off in the afternoon to watch your kids play soccer," or otherwise arrange your schedule to accommodate interests and priorities, says Cort, who is a member of the Superstition Springs Ward in the Mesa Kimball East Stake.

In addition to having a flexible schedule, Cort says, as a Farmers agent, "The income potential is great."

Another benefit, he says is that the company offers abundant support for its agents.

"Farmers has a saying that as an agent you are 'In business for yourself, but not by yourself,'" Cort explains.

He says District Managers provide agents with helpful support and direction; and, in addition to the initial training the company offers, "There's ongoing training as you're getting into the business."

Agents benefit from corporate advertising and have opportunities to participate in co-op advertising as well.

Since the company doesn't sell over the Internet or through advertised 800 numbers, but only directly through agents, "The company has a vested interest in seeing agents succeed," Cort says.

Unlike most businesses, individuals can get into the insurance business with a relatively small cash outlay. Cort says many agents work out of their homes and draw a company subsidy for the first year or so as they build up their client base.

The only "start-up" cost, he says, is the cost of becoming licensed through an independent licensing agency. Cort adds that individuals interested in signing on with Farmers don't have to be licensed initially in order to be hired.

"It's like having a franchise, without the franchise fees," he says. "They appoint you as a direct agent, and you have the advantage of the company name and support."

Cort says the work itself is ideal for individuals who like to talk to people and educate them.

"It's not hard-pressure selling, but helping people and following up," he says. "I just find out if I can help people out, do some kind of a needs analysis, and show them what I can do for them."

Cort says the company has also simplified the application process and eliminated much of the paperwork for their agents as, "It's all done on the Intranet now."

Cort would be happy to provide a quote for anyone seeking insurance and is most interested in talking to people who would like to explore a business opportunity with Farmers Insurance Group.

Cort works out of the agency at 1423 S. Higley Road, Ste. 125 in Mesa. He can be reached by calling 480-835-1301.

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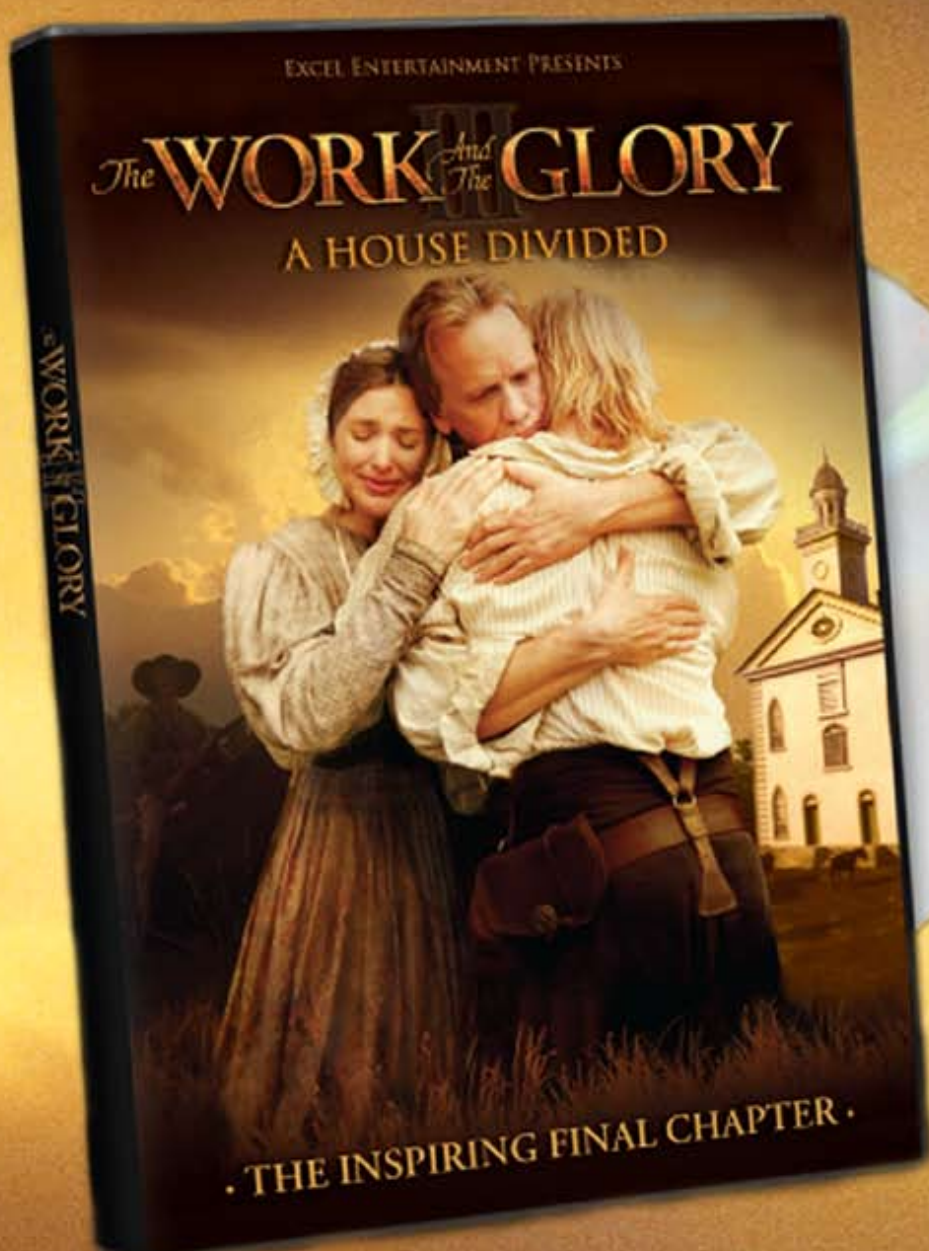

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Ward learns **Valuable Lessons** from combined **Luau** and **Simulated Disaster**

Photo courtesy of Adam Buck

When their stake scheduled a simulated disaster to assess members' preparedness, the Gila River Ward members still enjoyed a ward luau that same weekend, even joining in with the Hawaiian dancers as part of the entertainment.

By Tina Scott
The Beehive

Due to a scheduling duplication, members of the Gila River Ward in the Phoenix Stake saw a ward luau turn into a hands-on learning experience in emergency preparedness.

The Phoenix Stake has made emergency preparedness a focus this year, suggesting various goals and milestones for completion.

"We're encouraged to get our 72-hour kits, do canning and have stuff to be warm," says Gila River Ward member Naomi Buck. She adds, "[The stake's focus] makes you want to go out and do it. Once you've got it all accomplished, you'll be thankful that you're prepared, especially if you face an emergency."

As added encouragement, the Gila River Ward decided to have an activity at the completion of each milestone. For the first such activity, a luau was scheduled to encourage ward members to create their 72-hour kits.

However, that same weekend, the Phoenix Stake President asked the members of the stake go all weekend without power, phone service, or vehicles in order to simulate a natural disaster and determine their level of preparedness.

When ward leaders learned about the seeming scheduling conflict, their first reaction was to cancel the luau; but, decided, instead, to capitalize on the opportunity and see if ward members could enjoy the luau while still keeping the stake president's challenge. They held the luau in a central location, so members could walk or ride bikes to the event. The food—pit-roasted

Continued on pg. B19

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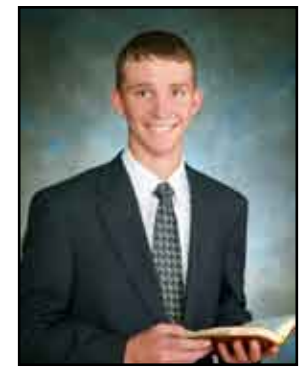

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